

ABB FIA Formula E Championship 2017/2018
Rounds 11 and 12: E-Prix of New York

The MICHELIN Pilot Sport EV2 ready for Season 4 finale

The 2017/2018 ABB FIA Formula E Championship concludes this weekend with a double-header meeting in New York City's Red Hook neighbourhood which the series visited for the first time last summer.

Red Hook – a neighbourhood of the borough of Brooklyn, on the bank of East River, opposite Manhattan – has been undergoing something of a renaissance recently and the e-prix takes place in the harbour area, close to the ferry terminal. As a result, it is easy for New Yorkers to travel to the circuit, either by boat or via the Brooklyn Bridge which was built in 1883 and was the first to straddle the famous waterway. Although less popular than tourist attractions like Time Square, Red Hook provides one of the city's most spectacular views of the Manhattan skyline and the Statue of Liberty.

While last year's NYC meeting featured a relatively short track (1.95km / 10 turns), this year's action will take place around a revised 2.373km, 14-turn layout. Despite its riverfront location, it still has all the hallmarks of a typical street circuit, namely relatively narrow and lined by walls, with a cocktail of long straights, tight turns and chicanes, a configuration that the MICHELIN Pilot Sport EV2 has repeatedly taken in its stride since its debut in 2016.

"In 2017, the New York City E-Prix was the slowest of the campaign and the least demanding on tyres," recalls **Serge Grisin**, the manager of Michelin's Formula E programme. "We don't expect this year's configuration to be any more difficult because the added portion essentially comprises slow corners, with the exception of Turn 10, which itself is slower than Turn 5. As a result, wear rates are likely to be relatively low. It is more the MICHELIN Pilot Sport EV2's longitudinal grip [traction] that promises to play the biggest role this weekend due to the repeated hard re-acceleration out of the tighter corners."

The grip provided by the New York City track varies through the different turns. The majority of the surface was new for 2017 but the circuit was bumpy in places and offered little grip. The weather was wet for Friday's shakedown but the two races – on Saturday and Sunday – took place in hot sunshine and track temperatures in excess of 40°C saw the MICHELIN Pilot Sport EV2 reveal another aspect of its versatility. This time around, it will be the current tyre's swansong appearance since it is to be superseded by a new-generation replacement in Season 5 to coincide with the launch of Formula E's exciting next-Gen cars. The American clash will also settle the fight for the 2017/2018 title. Whoever wins the crown, he will have been helped on his way by the quality of his Michelin tyres across a broad spectrum of conditions since the championship's opener at the end of last year in Hong Kong.



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